RECONNAISSANCE CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY OF THE LINDEN TRAILS, LLC AND SKY SIGNS, LLC TRACTS, HORRY COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA

CHICORA RESEARCH CONTRIBUTION 502

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Prepared By:
Michael Trinkley, Ph.D., RPA
and
Nicole Southerland

Prepared For:
Mr. Kenneth Smoak
Sabine & Waters, Inc.
PO Box 1072
Summerville, SC 29484

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Chicora Foundation, Inc.
PO Box 8664
Columbia, SC 29202-8664
803/787-6910
www.chicora.org

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ABSTRACT

This study reports on a reconnaissance cultural resources survey of two tracts – the 36 acre Linden Trails and the 7.5 acre Sky Signs tracts -- located in southeastern Horry County, South Carolina, south of Conway. The work was conducted to assist Mr. Kenneth Smoak of Sabine and Waters, Inc. and his client Santee Cooper determine the probable cultural resource implications of development. This study, conducted at a reconnaissance level, is not intended to satisfy Section 106 requirements and additional investigations may be required to comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the regulations codified in 38CFR800.

The investigation included background research on the ArchSite website to check for any National Register sites in the project area, as well as for information on any previous architectural surveys that may have been conducted in the general vicinity. As a result, no National Register properties or historic sites are within 0.5 mile of the two tracts. Within 1.0 mile of the tracts are four structures (130-0094, 060-0422, 060-0083, and 060-0085), all identified during a 1988 survey of the county. Site 130-0094 is the c. 1920 Kenneth McNeil House; 060-0422 is a c. 1935 house; 060-0083 is the S.C. Morris house; and 060-0085 is the c. 1880 Sidney Thompson Farm. The Sidney Thompson Farm (060-0085) is eligible for the National Register. The other three resources, however, are not eligible.

We also reviewed the site files of the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology, which failed to identify any sites within a 1.0 mile area of the two tracts.

The reconnaissance incorporated both shovel testing and a pedestrian survey where logging had revealed significant ground visibility (i.e. over 50%).

As a result of this study, no sites were identified. Each tract contains poorly drained soils, which were generally wet during the survey.

While reconnaissance studies are not able to provide definitive eligibility determinations, they are able to suggest the need for additional research. We found no evidence of cultural remains on either tract. Given the poorly drained soils encountered on both tracts, it is unlikely that significant historic or prehistoric resources will be found.

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INTRODUCTION

This investigation was conducted by Dr. Michael Trinkley of Chicora Foundation, Inc. for Mr. Kenneth Smoak of Sabine & Waters, Inc. and their client, Santee Cooper. The work, conducted at a reconnaissance level, is not intended to satisfy Section 106 requirements, but only to assist Santee Cooper, and their local environmental consulting firm, Sabine & Waters, better understand the probable cultural resource implications of development. While development of the parcels may require compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the regulations codified in 36CFR800, we know of no permits that would initiate Section 106 review of the properties at this time.

The study consists of two parcels-- the 36 acre Linden Trails, LLC and the 7.5 acre Sky Signs, LLC tracts – located in southeast Horry County, south of Conway (Figure 1). This is an area of limited development, although several housing developments are found in the immediate area. The Linden Trails, LLC Tract is roughly rectangular in shape with its western property line bounded by an existing transmission line (Figure 2). The Sky Signs, LLC Tract is currently used as a small airstrip and is grassed.

Almost the entire 43.5 acres between the two tracts consist of poorly drained soils, accounting for about 99% of the total area. Less than 1% of the area, located at the northern edge of the Linden Trails, LLC property, has moderately well drained soils.

The tracts are being considered by Santee Cooper for the development of a transmission substation. Substations require landscape alteration, primarily clearing, subsequent erection of poles and other facilities, erecting lines, and long-term maintenance of the substation. This will cause damage to the ground surface and any archaeological resources that may be present in the survey area.

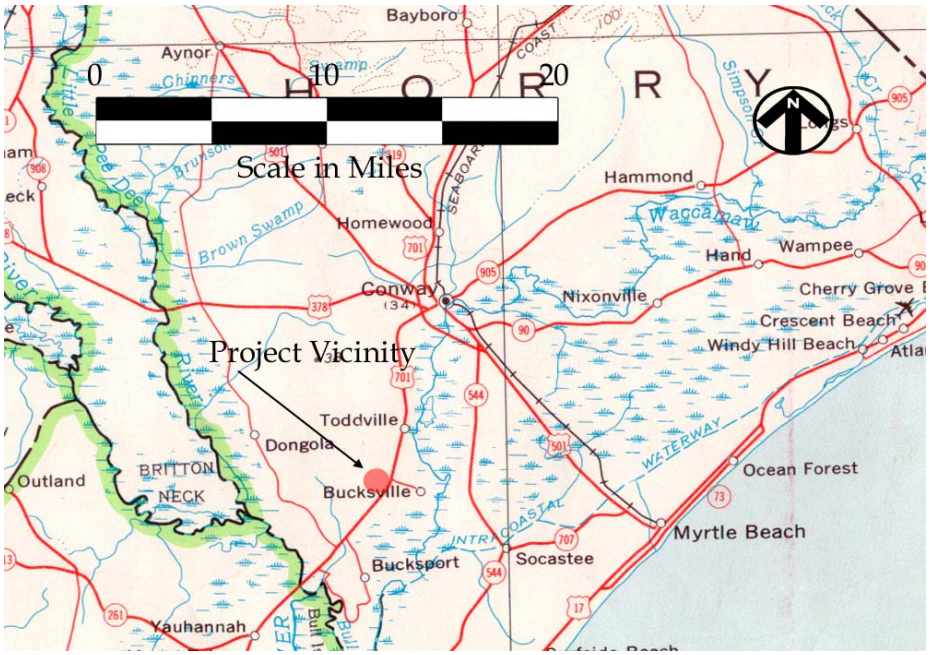

Figure 1. Project vicinity in Horry County (basemap is USGS South Carolina 1:500,000).

We were contacted on September 2, 2008 by Mr. Kenneth Smoak of Sabine & Waters with a request to provide a proposal for the investigation of the

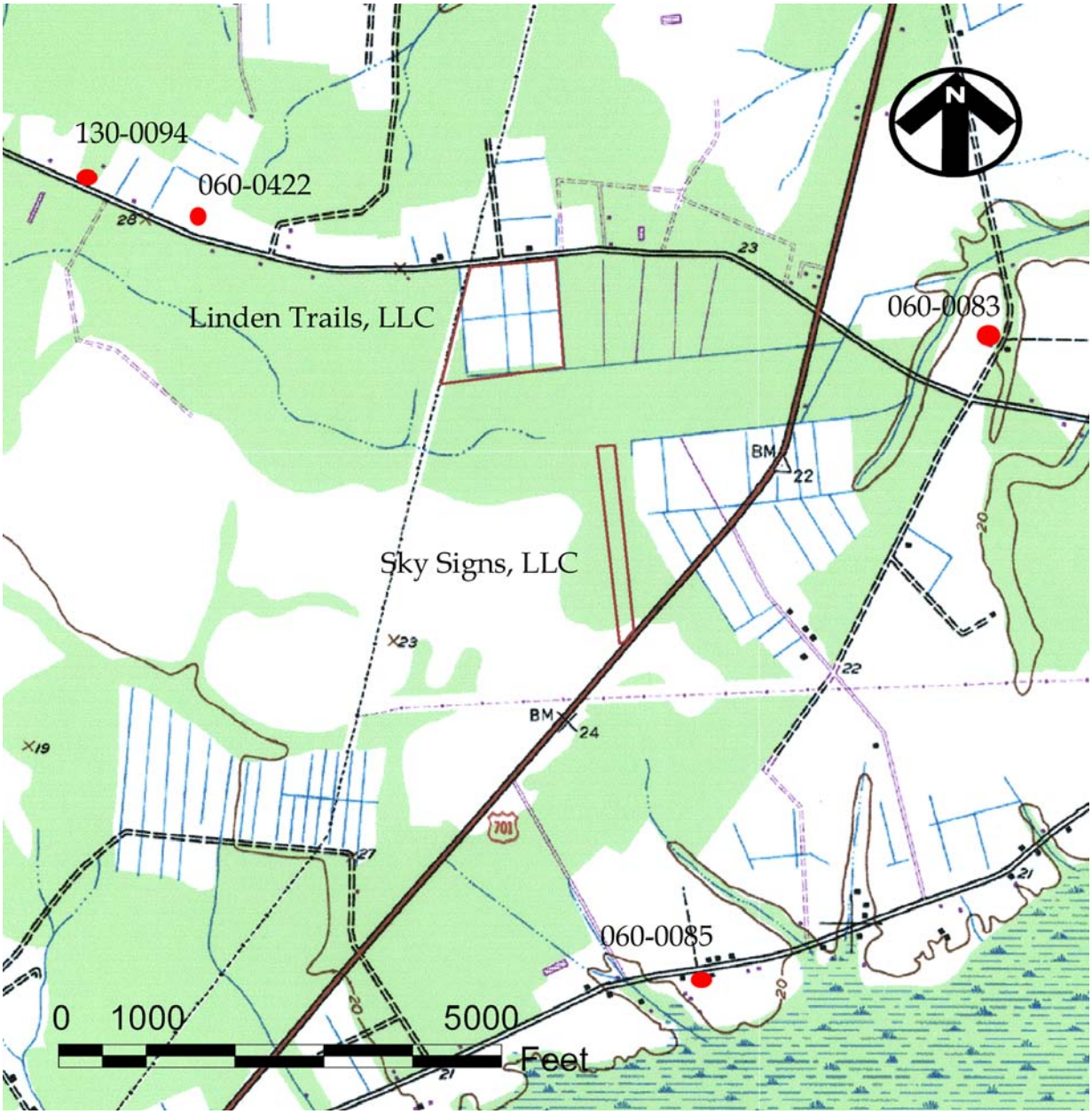

Figure 2. Linden Trails, LLC and Sky Signs, LLC tracts and previously identified architectural sites (basemap is USGS Bucksville 7.5').

two tracts. This proposal for the work was sent the same day. The proposal was accepted and initial work began on September 19, 2008.

Initial background investigations included an examination of previously recorded archaeological sites at the S.C. Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology (SCIAA). No sites were found within 1.0 mile of the two project tracts. The background work also incorporated a review of the ArchSite website, that contains the architectural information from the S.C. Department of Archives and History (SCDAH). Four resources (130-0094, 060-0422, 060-0083, and

060-0085) were found within a mile of the project area. These resources, recorded during a comprehensive architectural survey of Horry County (Utterback 1988) include site 130-0094, the c. 1920 Kenneth McNeil House; 060-0422, a c. 1935 house; 060-0083, the S.C. Morris house; and 060-0085, the c. 1880 Sidney Thompson Farm. The Sidney Thompson Farm (060-0085) is eligible for the National Register. The other three resources, however, are not eligible. None of these sites, however, are within a 0.5 mile radius of the tracts.

Archival and historical research was limited to a review of secondary sources available in the Chicora Foundation files.

The archaeological field reconnaissance was conducted on September 22, 2008 by Ms. Nicole Southerland and Ms. Ashley Guba under the direction of Dr. Michael Trinkley.

This report details the findings of these studies and provides our recommendations for the identification and evaluation of cultural resources on the study tract.

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Physiography

The project area is situated in southeastern Horry County, south of Conway. The level topography in the region is interrupted by only occasional marsh sloughs and small wetland depressions. The dominating feature is the Waccamaw River to the east, which meanders, forming large cutoffs or lakes, as well as much swamp, including Big Swamp, just south of the project area.

In general, the topography of the study tract is level. The Waccamaw essentially bisects the county into east and west halves and drains numerous swamps between the river and the Atlantic Ocean. On a regional scale the topography slopes either southeast toward the Waccamaw or northwest toward smaller drainages such as Maple Swamp.

Horry County is bounded to the north by Brunswick and Columbus counties, North Carolina, to the east by the Atlantic Ocean, to the south by Georgetown County, and to the west by Dillon and Marion counties. It lies within the Lower Coastal Plain, which is made up of fluvial deposits that contain varying amounts of sand, silt, and clay (Dudley 1986). This is also the area known as the Atlantic Coast Flatwoods which extends from the sea shore inland about 30 to 70 miles. The area is characterized by broad flats and depressions. While there are areas of well drained soils, much of the flatwoods consist primarily of poorly drained soils with clay subsoils, especially near the coast and in the project area (Ellerbe 1974:18).

Elevations may range from sea level to about 100 feet above mean sea level in the Lower Coastal Plain. In both tracts of the project area there are no areas where the land is higher than about 25 feet above mean sea level (AMSL). A noticeable characteristic of this physiographic area is how gradually the flat lands seem to grade into either freshwater marshes, savannahs, or swamps.

Geology and Soils

The geology of the Lower Coastal Plain has been well described by Cooke (1936) who notes that from the Cape Fear River in North Carolina to Winyah Bay in South Carolina, the coast forms a "great arc scooped out by waves" (Cooke 1936:4). This area has been described by Brown (1975) as being an arcuate strand. In this

Figure 3. View of the airstrip at the Sky Signs, LLC tract.

area salt marshes are poorly developed or absent and few tidal inlets breach the coast (Smith 1933:20-21). The situation is the result of an erosional history about 100,000 years ago. In general, however, the geology of the Lower Coastal Plain is less complex than that of other sections of the state.

As previously mentioned, the area is dominated by fluvial deposits of unconsolidated sands and clays. Rocks are almost totally absent from the area, although Mills (1972[1826]:584) does note that some compact shell limestone was found on the Waccamaw between Gaul's Ferry and Bear Bluff.

Figure 4. View of the open pasture land at Linden Trails, LLC.

Soils were primarily formed during the Pleistocene epoch and several terraces were deposited (Dudley 1986:85). Over 99% of the soils on both tracts consist of the poorly drained Ogeechee Series. This soils has an A horizon of very dark gray (10YR3/1) loamy fine sand to a depth of 0.7 foot over a dark grayish brown (10YR4/2) sandy clay loam to almost 2.0 feet in depth. A very small portion along the northern perimeter of the Linden Trails, LLC Tract contains the moderately well drained Yauhannah Series. This soil type, found in a small area along Winburn Road, has an Ap horizon of very dark grayish brown (10YR3/2) loamy fine sand to a depth of 0.5 foot over a yellowish brown (10YR5/4) loamy fine sand to 0.8 foot in depth.

Much of the area in the Linden Trails, LLC Tract was wet during the time of the survey. Numerous ditches are found throughout the parcel, however, soils remained wet.

In 1826 Robert Mills commented that soil was rich and productive adjacent to Horry's rivers. Even the uplands were well suited for cotton with their light sandy soil underlaid by clay. But he commented that a great deal of swamp land was found in the district, "fit only for cattle ranges" (Mills 1972[1826]:585). Edmund Ruffin, who managed to visit much of South Carolina's coast in the mid-1840s, never sought to go to Horry, commenting that:

> I would have gone to Horry, which is called the "dark corner" of the state, but for having no expectation of finding anyone acquainted with or feeling interested in the objects of explorations (Mathew 1992:215).

Floristics

Vegetation in Horry County is characterized in relation to the previously broad topographic patterns of poorly drained floodplains and lowlands, and the well drained uplands.

The vegetation in Horry County has been classified by Küchler (1964) as part of the Oak-Hickory-Pine forest, based on potential natural vegetation. This would consist of medium tall to

tall forests of broadleaf deciduous and needleleaf ever-green trees. More specifically, however, the floodplains are covered by mixed hardwoods, including bald cypress, tupelo gum, and black gum. Less water tolerant trees, such as pines, occur on the uplands or on better drained slopes. Also found in the bottomlands, floodplains, and Carolina bays are red maple, ash, water oak, elm, and sweet gum. On the better drained uplands pine dominates, with loblolly and longleaf pines being indigenous and the slash pine introduced.

In 1826 Mills in describing the Horry District vegetation, notes:

> The long leaf pine abounds, also the cypress, live oak, water oak, white oak, &c. The fruit trees are, peaches, apples, pears, plums, cherries, figs; besides strawberries, which grow wild, whortleberries, &c. The forest trees begin to bud in the latter part of March, and the fruit trees in April. The pine and cypress are mostly used for buildings (Mills 1972[1826]:582).

The poorly drained swamps and flatwoods of Horry County were not particularly attractive to early settlers and much of the area was not actively farmed for a number of years.

A modern topographic map (1973 Bucksville quad) shows the Linden Trails, LLC tract has an open field with several ditches. A small portion of the tract is still open, however, most of the tract is now covered in a second growth pine and hardwood forest. Alternatively, the topographic map shows the Sky Signs, LLC tract as wooded, but the area is currently grassed and being used as a small airstrip.

Figure 5. View of a ditch at the Linden Trails, LLC tract.

Climate

Elevation, latitude, and distance from the coast work close together to affect the climate of South Carolina, although Horry is clearly dominated by its maritime location. Much of the weather is controlled by the proximity of the Gulf Stream, about 50 miles offshore. In addition, the more westerly mountains block or moderate many of the cold air masses that flow across the state from west to east. Even the very cold air masses which cross the mountains are warmed by compression before the descent on the Coast.

As a result, the climate of Horry County is temperate. The winters are relatively mild with a mean temperature of 48°F and the summers are very warm and humid, with a mean temperature of 79°F and average humidity of 60%. Rainfall in the amount of about 51 inches is good for a broad range of crops. About 31 inches (or 60% of the total) occurs during the growing season, with until relatively recent periods of drought not being particularly common. Of course, there have been statewide droughts, such as the one in 1845, but more often the threat to Horry crops was flooding.

Major floods have occurred in 1855, 1924, 1928, 1959, 1961, and 1973, with the September 1928 flood the largest known, reaching a stage of 12.75 feet above mean sea level (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 1973:9).

The average growing season is about 234 days, although early freezes in the fall and late frosts in the spring can reduce this period by as much as 30 or more days (Dudley 1986:97). Consequently, most cotton planting, for example, did not take place until early May, avoiding the possibility that a late frost would damage the young seedlings.

PREHISTORIC AND HISTORIC SYNOPSIS

Previous Research

Horry has received rather spotty archaeological attention. Derting and his colleagues, for example, list only 67 reports associated with the county, with 41 of these (or 61%) representing highway or sewer surveys (Derting et al. 1991). Although dated, this indicates that the attention has been focused on relatively narrow, contained corridors, with only minor attention devoted to the area's rich prehistoric and protohistoric resources.

Considerable, primarily unpublished, research took place in the Myrtle Beach area during the 1960s at the Ellsworth Site by Erika Fogg-Amed, then a student of Reinhold Englemyer at USC-Conway. Several test units were placed within the site which yielded Stallings, Thom's Creek, Hanover, and Cape Fear sherds, as well as a Morrow Mountain component (Fogg-Amed n.d. a). No site boundaries were established and, in fact, no site form has ever been filed.

Fogg-Amed also tested the "Coates Site," located about 10 miles north of Myrtle Beach on a high bluff overlooking a freshwater pond. Testing at this site yielded a dense shell midden that produced only lithic debitage (Fogg-Amed n.d. b). Again, no site form was filed.

Closer to the survey tract at one project area has been surveyed. This is a compliance survey for a transmission route (Trinkley and Southerland 2003). While one prehistoric site was found, it was highly disturbed with no subsurface remains found.

Prehistoric Overview

The Paleoindian period, lasting from 12,000 to 8,000 B.C., is evidenced by basally thinned, side-notched projectile points; fluted, lanceolate projectile points; side scrapers; end scrapers; and drills (Coe 1964; Michie 1977; Williams 1968). The Paleoindian occupation, while widespread, does not appear to have been intensive. Artifacts are most frequently found along major river drainages, which Michie interprets to support the concept of an economy "oriented towards the exploitation of now extinct mega-fauna" (Michie 1977:124).

Unfortunately, little is known about Paleoindian subsistence strategies, settlement systems, or social organization. Generally, archaeologists agree that the Paleoindian groups were at a band level of society (see Service 1966), were nomadic, and were both hunters and foragers. While population density, based on the isolated finds, is thought to have been low, Walthall suggests that toward the end of the period, "there was an increase in population density and in territoriality and that a number of new resource areas were beginning to be exploited" (Walthall 1980:30).

The Archaic period, which dates from 8000 to 2000 B.C., does not form a sharp break with the Paleoindian period, but is a slow transition characterized by a modern climate an increase in the diversity of material culture. Associated with this is a reliance on a broad spectrum of small mammals, although the white tailed deer was likely the most commonly exploited mammal. The chronology established by Coe (1964) for the North Carolina Piedmont may be applied with little modification to the South Carolina coastal plain and piedmont. Archaic period assemblages, characterized by corner-notched and broad stemmed projectile points, are fairly common, perhaps because the swamps and drainages offered especially

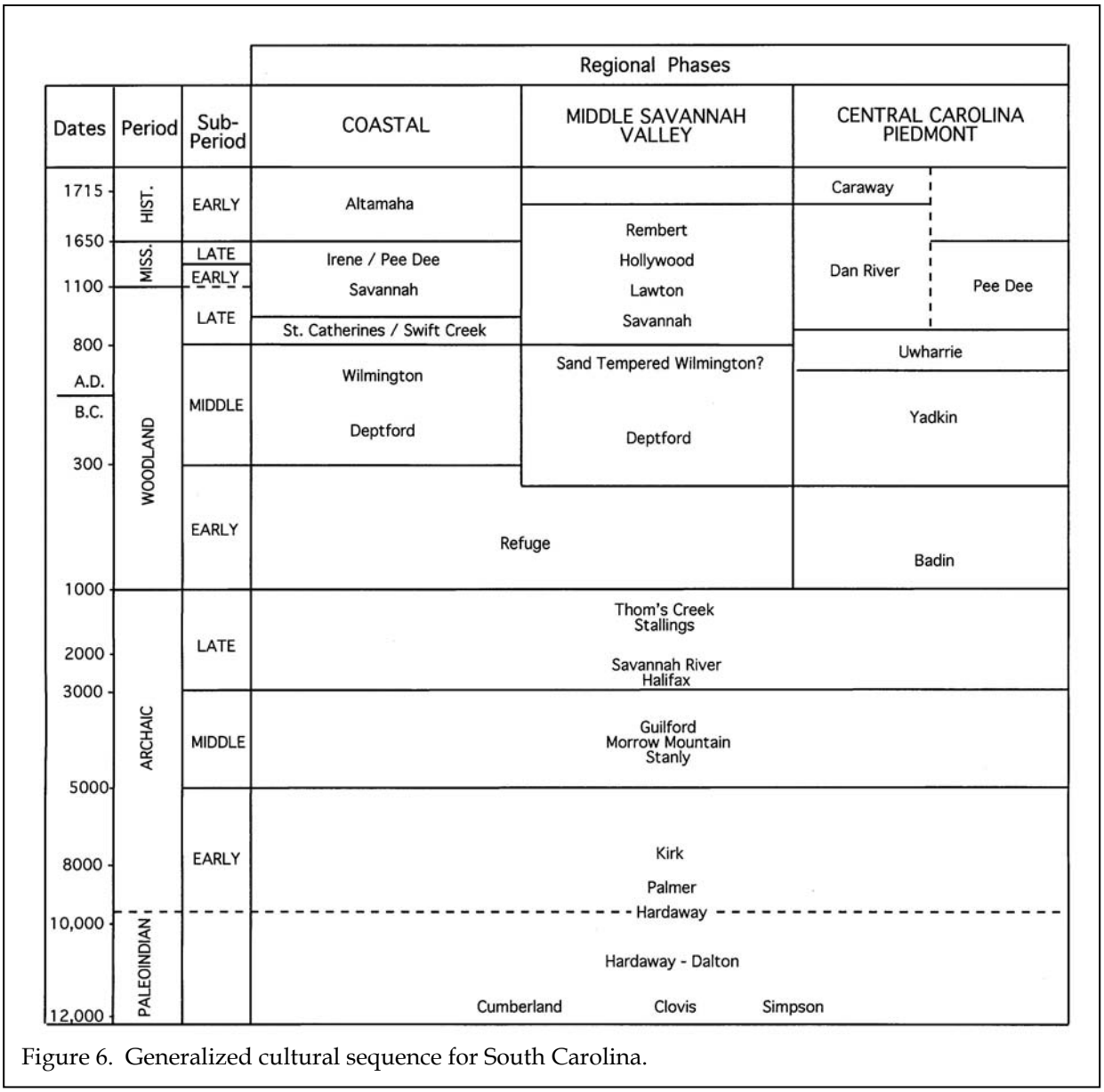

Figure 6. Generalized cultural sequence for South Carolina.

attractive ecotones.

In the Coastal Plain of the South Carolina, there is an increase in the quantity of Early Archaic remains, probably associated with an increase in population and associated increase in the intensity of occupation. While Hardaway and Dalton points are typically found as isolated specimens along riverine environments, remains from the following Palmer phase are not only more common, but are also found in both riverine and interriverine settings. Kirks are likewise common in the coastal plain (Goodyear et al. 1979).

The two primary Middle Archaic phases found in the coastal plain are the Morrow Mountain and Guilford (the Stanly and Halifax complexes identified by Coe are rarely encountered). Our best information on the Middle Woodland comes from sites investigated west of the Appalachian Mountains, such as the work in

the Little Tennessee River Valley. The work at Middle Archaic river valley sites, with their evidence of a diverse floral and faunal subsistence base, seems to stand in stark contrast to Caldwell's Middle Archaic "Old Quartz Industry" of Georgia and South Carolina, where axes, choppers, and ground and polished stone tools are very rare.

The Late Archaic is characterized by the appearance of large, square stemmed Savannah River projectile points (Coe 1964). These people continued the intensive exploitation of the uplands much like earlier Archaic groups. The bulk of our data for this period, however, comes from work in the Uwharrie region of North Carolina.

The Woodland period begins, by definition, with the introduction of fired clay pottery about 2000 B.C. along the South Carolina coast (the introduction of pottery, and hence the beginning of the Woodland period, occurs much later in the Piedmont of South Carolina). It should be noted that many researchers call the period from about 2500 to 1000 B.C. the Late Archaic because of a perceived continuation of the Archaic lifestyle in spite of the manufacture of pottery. Regardless of terminology, the period from 2500 to 1000 B.C. is well documented on the South Carolina coast and is characterized by Stallings (fiber-tempered) pottery. The subsistence economy during this early period was based primarily on deer hunting and fishing, with supplemental inclusions of small mammals, birds, reptiles, and shellfish.

Like the Stallings settlement pattern, Thom's Creek sites are found in a variety of environmental zones and take on several forms. Thom's Creek sites are found throughout the South Carolina Coastal Zone, Coastal Plain, and up to the Fall Line. The sites are found into the North Carolina Coastal Plain, but do not appear to extend southward into Georgia.

In the Coastal Plain drainage of the Savannah River there is a change of settlement, and probably subsistence, away from the riverine focus found in the Stallings Phase (Hanson 1982:13; Stoltman 1974:235-236). Thom's Creek sites are more commonly found in the upland areas and lack evidence of intensive shellfish collection. In the Coastal Zone large, irregular shell middens; small, sparse shell middens; and large "shell rings" are found in the Thom's Creek settlement system.

The Deptford phase, which dates from 1100 B.C. to A.D. 600, is best characterized by fine to coarse sandy paste pottery with a check stamped surface treatment. The Deptford settlement pattern involves both coastal and inland sites.

Inland sites such as 38AK228-W, 38LX5, 38RD60, and 38BM40 indicate the presence of an extensive Deptford occupation on the Fall Line and the Coastal Plain, although sandy, acidic soils preclude statements on the subsistence base (Anderson 1979; Ryan 1972; Trinkley 1980b). These interior or upland Deptford sites, however, are strongly associated with the swamp terrace edge, and this environment is productive not only in nut masts, but also in large mammals such as deer. Perhaps the best data concerning Deptford "base camps" comes from the Lewis-West site (38AK228-W), where evidence of abundant food remains, storage pit features, elaborate material culture, mortuary behavior, and craft specialization has been reported (Sassaman et al. 1990:96-98).

Throughout much of the Coastal Zone and Coastal Plain north of Charleston, a somewhat different cultural manifestation is observed, related to the "Northern Tradition" (e.g., Caldwell 1958). This recently identified assemblage has been termed Deep Creek and was first identified from northern North Carolina sites (Phelps 1983). The Deep Creek assemblage is characterized by pottery with medium to coarse sand inclusions and surface treatments of cord marking, fabric impressing, simple stamping, and net impressing. Much of this material has been previously designated as the Middle Woodland "Cape Fear" pottery originally typed by South (1976). The

Deep Creek wares date from about 1000 B.C. to A.D. 1 in North Carolina, but may date later in South Carolina. The Deep Creek settlement and subsistence systems are poorly known, but appear to be very similar to those identified with the Deptford phase.

The Deep Creek assemblage strongly resembles Deptford both typologically and temporally. It appears this northern tradition of cord and fabric impressions was introduced and gradually accepted by indigenous South Carolina populations. During this time, some groups continued making only the older carved paddle0stamped pottery, while others mixed the two styles, and still others (and later all) made exclusively cord and fabric stamped wares.

The Middle Woodland in South Carolina is characterized by a pattern of settlement mobility and short-term occupation. On the southern coast it is associated with the Wilmington phase, while on the northern coast it is recognized by the presence of Hanover, McClellanville or Santee, and Mount Pleasant assemblages. The best data concerning Middle Woodland Coastal Zone assemblages comes from Phelps' (1983:32-33) work in North Carolina. Associated items include a small variety of the Roanoke Large Triangular points (Coe 1964:110-111), sandstone abraders, shell pendants, polished stone gorgets, celts, and woven marsh mats. Significantly, both primary inhumation and cremations are found.

On the Coastal Plain of South Carolina, researchers are finding evidence of a Middle Woodland Yadkin assemblage, best known from Coe's work at the Doerschuk site in North Carolina (Coe 1964:25-26). Yadkin pottery is characterized by a crushed quartz temper and cord marked, fabric impressed, and linear check stamped surface treatments. The Yadkin ceramics are associated with medium-sized triangular points, although Oliver (1981) suggests that a continuation of the Piedmont Stemmed Tradition to at least A.D. 300 coexisted with this Triangular Tradition. The Yadkin series in South Carolina was first observed by Ward (1978, 1983) from the White's Creek drainage in Marlboro County, South Carolina. Since then, a large Yadkin village has been identified by DePratter at the Dunlap site (38DA66) in Darlington County, South Carolina (Chester DePratter, personal communication 1985) and Blanton et al. (1986) and have excavated a small Yadkin site (389SU83) in Sumter County, South Carolina. Research at 38FL249 on the Roche Carolina tract in northern Florence County revealed an assemblage including Badin, Yadkin, and Wilmington wares (Trinkley et al. 1993:85-102). Anderson et al. (1982:299-302) offer additional typological assessments of the Yadkin wares in South Carolina.

Over the years, the suggestion that Cape Fear might be replace by such types as Deep Creek and Mount Pleasant has raised considerable controversy. Taylor, for example, rejects the use of the North Carolina types in favor of those developed by Anderson et al. (1982) from their work at Mattassee Lake in Berkeley County (Taylor 1984:80). Cable (1991) is even less generous in his denouncement of ceramic constructs developed nearly a decade ago, also favoring adoption of the Mattassee Lake typology and chronology. This construct, recognizing five phases (Deptford I-III, McClellanville, and Santee I), uses a type variety system.

Regardless of terminology, these Middle Woodland Coastal Plain and Coastal Zone phases continue the Early Woodland Deptford pattern of mobility. While sites are found all along the coast and inland to the Fall Line, shell midden sites evidence sparse shell and artifacts. Gone are the abundant shell tools, worked bone items, and clay balls. Recent investigations at Coastal Zone sites such as 38BU747 and 38BU1214, however, have provided some evidence of worked bone and shell items at Deptford phase middens (see Trinkley 1990).

In many respects, the South Carolina Late Woodland may be characterized as a continuation of previous Middle Woodland cultural assemblages. While outside the Carolinas there were major cultural changes, such as the

continued development and elaboration of agriculture, the Carolina groups settled into a lifeway not appreciably different from that observed for the previous 500 to 700 years (cf. Sassaman et al. 1990:14-15). This situation would remain unchanged until the development of the South Appalachian Mississippian complex (see Ferguson 1971).

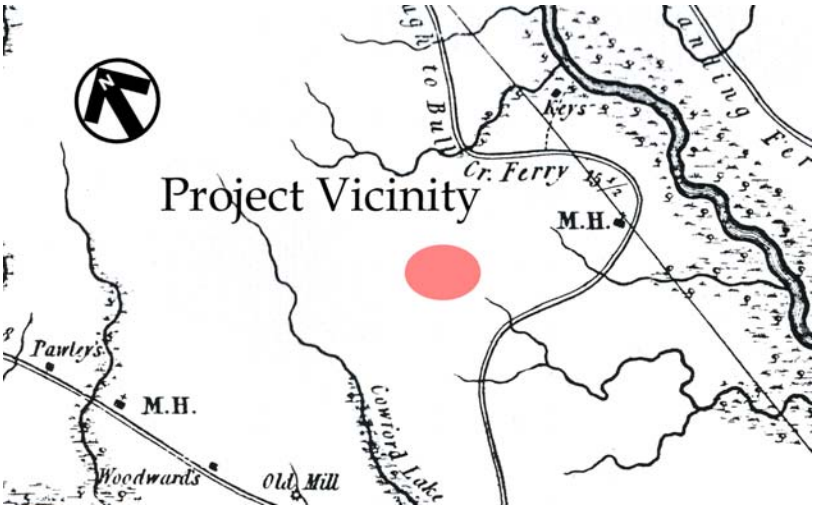

Figure 7. Portion of Mills' *Atlas* showing the project vicinity.

The South Appalachian Mississippian period, from about A.D. 1100 to A.D. 1640, is the most elaborate level of culture attained by the native inhabitants and is followed by cultural disintegration brought about largely by European disease. The period is characterized by complicated stamped pottery, complex social organization, agriculture, and the construction of temple mounds and ceremonial centers. The earliest phases include the Savannah and Pee Dee (A.D. 1200 to 1550).

Historic Synopsis

The earliest activity in the Horry County area may have been the Spanish Ayllon movement from Rio Jordon (Cape Fear River) to San Miguel de Gualdape, 45 leagues distant. Some have argued that Fort San Miguel may have been at the mouth of Winyah Bay, although Paul Hoffman has recently suggested the fort was in Beaufort County, South Carolina or Chatham County, Georgia.

While the English settled Charleston in 1670, the northern frontier was ignored, except for the Indian trade, until 1731, when the first Royal Governor of Carolina, Robert Johnson, directed 11 townships to be laid out, including Kingston on the west bank of the Waccamaw. Kingston covered much of Georgetown and Horry counties and by 1734 the town of Kingston, later known as Conwayboro and eventually Conway, was founded. The township, however, was never erected into a parish, but remained part of the Parish of Prince George, Winyah until 1785. In that year Prince George was divided into four districts and by 1801 Horry District was formally separated from Georgetown (Rogers 1972:9). The designation of "county" was not used until 1868. A variety of townships were established, including Simpson Creek and Little River on the south side of the Waccamaw River.

Prior to the Revolution there were few residents in Kingston and it was not until the late eighteenth century that English, French, Scotch, and Irish settlers began coming into the area. Many settlers in the early nineteenth century came from North Carolina and the northern seaboard states.

In spite of Horry's coastal plain situation, the area developed along vastly different lines than its southern neighbors Georgetown and Charleston. Horry District was always isolated from the remainder of South Carolina and had much stronger connections with North Carolina (Rogers 1972:3). The major traffic artery was the Waccamaw River and this reliance on river transport did not change until the highway development of the 1930s. Subsistence farming was the main occupation in the early 1800s and the farms were small, specializing in peas, wheat,

rice, cotton, and corn, most for home consumption (Rogers 1972:5). Mills notes that the population was,

> mostly engaged in cultivating the soil. There are a few mechanics, such as blacksmiths, shoemakers, taylors [sic], halters, etc. (Mills 1972[1826]:583).

For Mills' *Atlas* of 1826, the Horry District was surveyed by Harlee in 1820. No settlements are shown in the project area (Figure 7). The absence of houses surrounding the project area may not so much indicate sparse settlement as it may reflect the subscription basis of Mills' *Atlas*. The subsistence farmers of Horry District may either have been unable to subscribe or may have had no need to let others know their location. The 1860 census for Horry District indicates that many of the farmers in Kingston, for example, could neither read nor write, further reducing the benefits of listing in an atlas.

The emphasis on subsistence farming appears to be the result of topography. Only 20% of the land is subject to the type of tidal overflow necessary for wet cultivation of rice. Mills (1972[1826]:581) notes that the river floodplain soil was productive where it could be reclaimed by drainage, while the upland soils were much less productive. This difference in quality is reflected in the prices for the land. Mills states that,

> the low land swamps, when secured from the freshets, will sell for 40 or $50 an acre. The uplands are valued at from $4 down to 25 cents per acre (Mills 1972[1826]:581).

Interestingly, the price of "improved farms" ranged from $20 to $50 an acre as late as 1918 (Tillman et al. 1919:340). The few plantations found in Horry District were primarily located in All Saints Parish, east and south of the Waccamaw River. It was from this area that a small quantity of rice was exported throughout the nineteenth century (Rogers 1972:13).

Because the soils of Horry District were not able to support plantation agriculture a unique distribution of population and a very low percentage of slaves were found in the region. Horry County also continued to play a minor role in state politics. The area, prior to the Civil War, was oriented to smaller farmers and never developed an aristocratic plantation society with political and economic powers. Most of the farms, including the larger ones, were situated in Kingston Township. The 1860 census indicates that of the 782 farms, 560 were in Kingston (Rogers 1972:12). In 1860, the population was 2,606 and there were only 708 slaves. This ratio of 70% white and 30% blacks has not only remained stable into the twentieth century, but also stands in contrast to Georgetown District where about 12% of the population was white and 88% was black until the 1880 census, when the white population increased to about 20% (Rogers 1972).

Horry District never sided with the radical secessionists, possibly because of the influence of northern immigrants or because of the resentment of the political and economic power of slave owners. In any event, Horry County responded "enthusiastically" to the call for volunteers at the outbreak of the Civil War (Rogers 1972:35).

By the 1830s, a new industry was competing with farming in the Horry area. Northern immigrants from Maine, coupled with "pine woods speculators" form North Carolina began to exploit the forest products of both the uplands and swamp areas (Tillman et al. 1919:330; Berry 1970; Rogers 1972:14). The Horry District was the leading turpentine producer in South Carolina by 1860, producing products valued at $392,643. The lumber and turpentine industry continued to grow rapidly after the Civil War. Tobacco was introduced about 1850, but was not an important crop until after the Civil War, lead by the Green Sea Township.

Horry District saw little involvement in the Civil War, although 925 of the 1,000 men in the

voting population volunteered for duty and served (Rogers 1972:35). Fort Randell was established at Clardy's Point on the Little River and saw skirmishes in 1863 and 1865. The salt works of Peter Vaught, Sr. at Singleton Swash were raided in April 1864, and in 1865 a Union expedition was led up the Waccamaw to destroy ferries at Bull Creek and Yahannah (Rogers 1972:35-38).

After the Civil War, Horry was part of the Military District of Eastern South Carolina, but the Federal stay was short and by 1866 military troops had left Horry County. This absence of Federal troops continued throughout Reconstruction and the Democrats maintained political control throughout the period. Further, there was no land distribution in Horry County, possibly because there was really no land work distributing (Rogers 1972:47). Following the Civil War a number of changes began to affect the Horry area. Tobacco began to be a more important crop, the first county bank was organized in 1880, the railroad and telegraph arrived in 1887, and in 1869 a regular weekly county newspaper appeared (the *Horry Weekly News,* which published until 1877). Conwayboro was changed to Conway in 1883 and the only other "major" town continued to be Little River.

The turpentine business boomed in the 1870s and by 1880 there were 21 operators in the county, producing $181,400 annually (Rogers 1972:50). Farming, however, continued to be important. In 1870 there were 1,300 farms averaging 50 acres in size. The major crops were still subsistence items such as corn, sweet potatoes, and rice. Few wage employees were found in Horry (Rogers 1972:58). The Socastee and Little River townships had the richest farms and the five largest farms also produced turpentine in 1870 (Rogers 1972:60). The Grange movement arrived in Horry County relatively late, never organized in many areas, and failed by the late 1870s.

By 1910, the County population had increased to almost 27,000 but there was no town, including Conway, with a population of at least 2,500. Conway continued, however, to have strong lumbering and mercantile interests. With the gradual decline of lumbering and the turpentine industry, farming was once again the dominant activity in the county. The period from 1880 to 1910 saw corn acreage increase 140%, cotton acreage increase 90%, and tobacco acreage increase from 19 to 5,347 acres. During the same time rice production fell from 747,689 to 1,210 pounds (Tillman et al. 1919:333). By 1919 the chief money crops were corn, cotton, and tobacco, although corn was largely used to supply the home and fatten stock. After 1895, tobacco began to replace cotton as a prime money crop and by 1910 was "grown more or less generally over a county by small farmers who live on their farms and superintend the work" (Tillman et al. 1919:335).

In the early twentieth century, hogs were the principle source of livestock income. These animals were usually slaughtered in the fall for home use or sale on the local market. Cattle were mostly scrub stock and dairying was neglected.

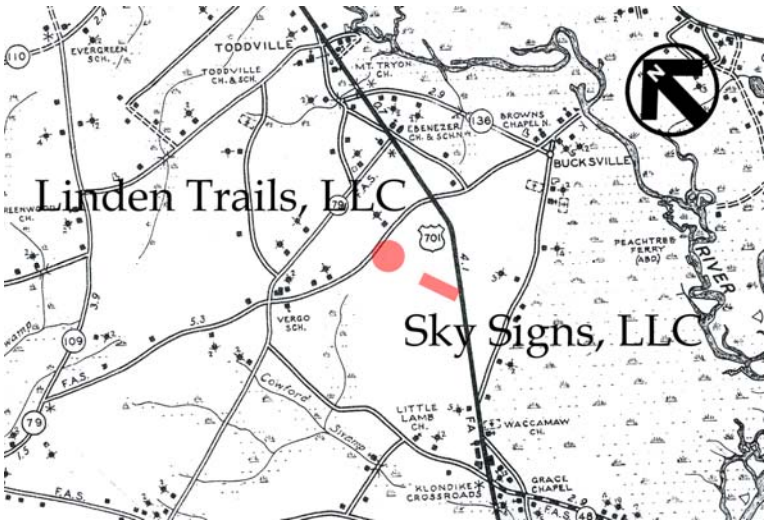

Figure 8. Portion of the 1939 *General Highway and Transportation Map of Horry County* showing the project area.

Farm equipment was largely inadequate in the early 1900s and most of the plowing was done with one ox or mule. On many small farms the adequacy of farm equipment did not appreciably improve into the 1940s, when the probate inventory for one small Horry farmer listed only one mule, a one-horse wagon, one disc, four plows, one lot hoes, one guano distributor, a tobacco sprayer, and a corn planter (Trinkley and Caballero 1983:8). Tillman et al. (1919:338) indicate that in the early 1900s plowing was seldom more than 2 to 3 inches deep because of the poor machinery. It is suggested that this lack of equipment was not entirely related to a lack of prosperity, but rather was largely the result of cheap labor. Tillman et al. report that, "negro men receive 75 cents to $1.25 a day . . . while negro women are paid 50 to 65 cents a day" (Tillman et al. 1919:340).

Horry County, in 1910, had a relatively low rate of farm tenancy. The 1939 *General Highway and Transportation Map of Horry County* (Figure 8) fails to show any structures in either of the project areas.

Tillman et al. (1919:340) indicate that 72.9% of the farms were operated by owners and 27% by tenants. The average size of such farms (each tenancy is classified as a farm) was 117.8 acres. This is contrasted with piedmont Spartanburg, where in 1920 32.1% of the farms were operated by their owners and 67.7% were operated by tenants. In Spartanburg, where cotton was still king, the average farm size was 49.4 acres (Latimer et al. 1924:419). This dichotomy documents the differences between tenancy in the Atlantic Coastal Plain, where there was a low "devotion" to cotton, and in the Black Belt and Upper Piedmont, where cotton was more important, tenancy rates higher, and farm size smaller (see Woofter et al. 1936).

RESEARCH METHODS AND FINDINGS

Introduction

Based on the soil survey (Dudley 1986) almost all of the survey area, including the 36 acre Linden Trails, LLC and Sky Signs, LLC tracts, consists of poorly drained soils. Although ditches are located on the Linden Trails, LLC Tract, neither property is close to a permanent water source. Such a permanent water source is characteristic of most prehistoric site locations.

The map research failed to reveal any settlements on or near the project area.

Field Survey and Results

The field methodology sought to include shovel testing, close interval shovel testing if sites were located, and pedestrian survey (Figure 9). Since none of the background research, including historic maps, the soil survey, and previously identified architectural and archaeological sites, showed a high potential for finding sites on the two project tracts, limited shovel testing was performed.

All shovel tests were approximately one-foot square and were excavated to sterile subsoil, usually 1.0 to 1.5 feet below the surface. All soils were screened through ¼-inch mesh and soil profiles were recorded as appropriate, using Munsell soil colors.

If evidence of archaeological sites was

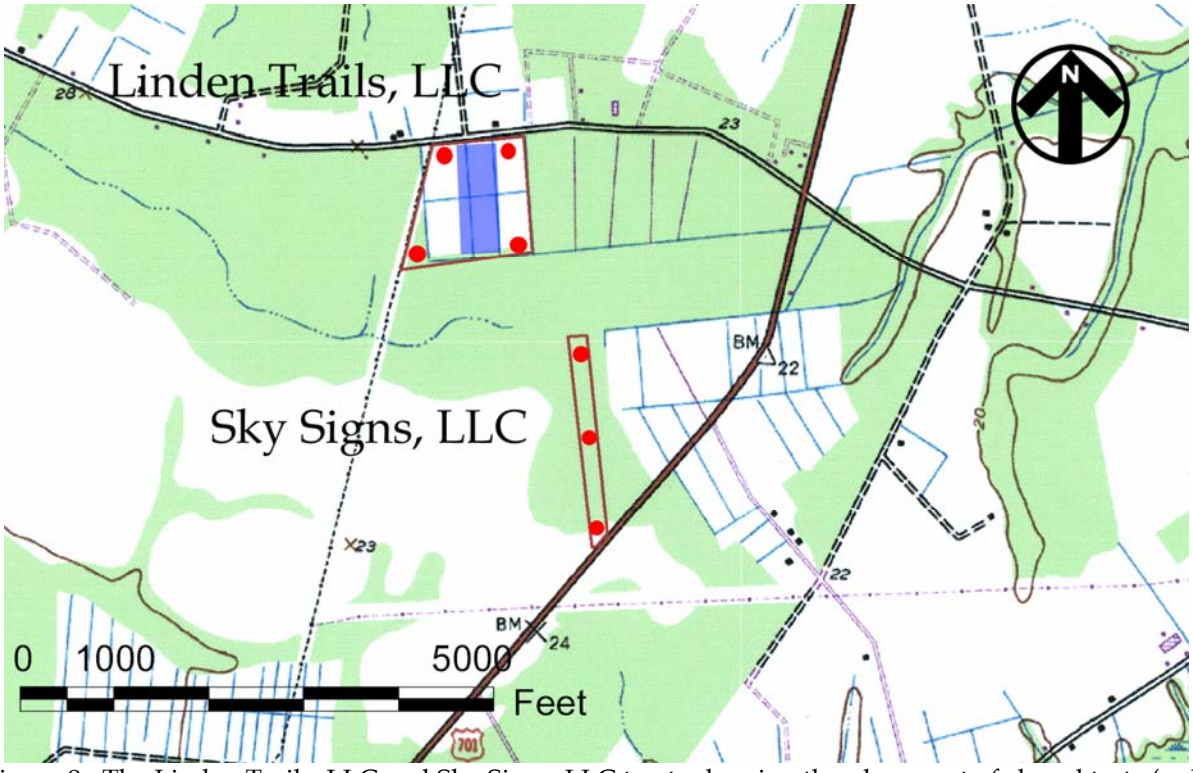

Figure 9. The Linden Trails, LLC and Sky Signs, LLC tracts showing the placement of shovel tests (red) and the area of pedestrian survey (blue) (basemap is USGS Bucksville 7.5').

encountered during shovel testing, transects would be added as necessary to determine more accurate boundaries. Boundaries would also be determined through location of the extent of surface scatters. Archaeological sites in this survey would be defined as consisting of three or more artifacts in an area. No isolated finds would be recorded during this survey.

Information would be collected from each site in order to complete site forms required by the South Carolina State Historic Preservation Office. Since this study was conducted at a reconnaissance level, it would not be possible to collect the quantity of data or detail necessary to allow the sites to be evaluated for their potential significance and eligibility for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places.

For the Linden Trails, LLC Tract, four shovel tests were excavated along the four corners. Each test revealed somewhat wet soils. The shovel test in the northeast corner, the one spot where moderately well drained soils were found, produced red clay at 0.6 foot in depth. A pedestrian survey of the densely wooded interior of the tract revealed a wet surface throughout. The existing ditches either had standing water or were muddy at the time of the survey. No artifacts were found in shovel tests or on the surface during the pedestrian survey.

Figure 10. View of shovel testing at the Linden Trails, LLC tract.

At the Sky Signs, LLC property, three shovel tests were excavated – one near SC 701, one in the middle of the linear tract, and one at the north end. Each test produced poorly drained soils. No artifacts were found in the shovel tests.

Architectural Resources

A comprehensive architectural survey has been performed for Horry County (Utterback 1988). In general, the erection of an electrical substation warrants an APE of between ¼ and ½ mile from the project area (such facilities are usually considered a visual intrusion of the landscape). If such an APE were considered during a level of intensive survey of the two tracts, no architectural resources would be found.

If we extend the APE to 1.0 mile, which is generally further than such projects necessitate, four resources (130-0094, 060-0422, 060-0083, and 060-0085) are found. Three of these resources, 130-0094, the c. 1920 Kenneth McNeil House; 060-0422, a c. 1935 house; and 060-0083, the S.C. Morris house, have been determined not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. Resource 060-0085, the c. 1880 Sidney Thompson Farm is eligible for the National Register. None of these resources, however, can be seen from the two project tracts.

CONCLUSIONS

The two survey tracts – Linden Trails, LLC (36 acres) and Sky Signs, LLC (7.5 acres) -- are located in southeastern Horry County. This reconnaissance level survey was performed for Mr. Kenneth Smoak of Sabine & Waters and his client, Santee Cooper and is intended for the better understanding of probable cultural resource implications of development of a substation.

The Linden Trails, LLC tract was mostly wooded in a second growth of pine and hardwoods with a small pasture area. Numerous ditches are located on the property, which were wet at the time of the survey. The Sky Signs, LLC tract is currently grassed and being used as a landing strip for small airplanes. Both tracts exhibit poorly drained soils.

Historical research of the tracts examined each property's potential for both prehistoric and historic sites. The model for prehistoric sites is not precise and often it is difficult to identify prehistoric occupations during a reconnaissance study. Nevertheless, on these two properties, the low, poorly drained soils and the distance from a permanent water source make it unlikely that significant prehistoric remains will be found.

Examination of historic maps failed to show any settlements on or in the vicinity of either of the tracts. While most of Horry County is relatively level in elevation, there are some areas near the survey tracts that are slightly higher and better suited for habitation. The shovel tests excavated in the project area failed to produce any cultural remains.

Both the Linden Trails, LLC and Sky Signs, LLC tracts show low probability for producing archaeological materials. A reconnaissance level survey, however, does not satisfy Section 106 requirements, so if either property is to be developed, an intensive survey is recommended.

The historic architecture in the area cannot be seen from either of the project tracts. These resources will not be impacted by the construction of a substation. A comprehensive architectural inventory has been completed for Horry County (Utterback 1988), so it is unlikely that additional resources will be found that will affect the possible development of the tracts.

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Chicora Foundation, Inc.
PO Box 8664 ▪ 861 Arbutus Drive
Columbia, SC 29202-8664
Tel: 803-787-6910
Fax: 803-787-6910
Email: Chicora@earthlink.net
www.chicora.org